

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 03475 130753Z

21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 CU-05 IGA-02 IO-14 DRC-01

/158 W

----- 051025

R 121515Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

SECSTATE WASHDC 2606

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 3475

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KS, SW

SUBJECT: SWEDISH REACTION TO TRIALS IN SOUTH KOREA

REF: (A) SEOUL 5197; (B) STATE 171604

1. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL REACTION IN STOCKHOLM SPECIFICALLY TO TRIAL OF BISHOP CHI (REF A), PRIME MINISTER PALME HAS ISSUED STATEMENT DENOUNCING DEATH SENTENCES RECENTLY IMPOSED IN SOUTH KOREA. RECENT EVENTS IN KOREA HAVE RECEIVED RELATIVELY LITTLE PRESS COVERAGE HERE DUE PRIMARILY TO PRESS FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN CYPRUS, WATERGATE, ETC.

2. PLAME STATEMENT READS AS FOLLOWS:

"NEWS FROM SEOUL THAT A NUMBER OF PERSONS HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR ACTS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMERGENCY LAWS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA HAS SHOCKED

PUBLIC OPINION IN SWEDEN.

"SWEDEN IS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT. FOR MANY YEARS WE HAVE TAKEN AN ACTIVE PART IN UNITED NATIONS EFFORTS TO GET IT ABOLISHED. WE HAVE SOUGHT TO MOBILIZE INTERNATIONAL OPINION AGAINST CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AS AN EFFECTIVE FORM OF PUNISHMENT AND AGAINST THE CONTEMPT OF HUMAN LIFE THAT IT REPRESENTS.

"THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HAS APPEALED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO PARDON THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH. A DECISION TO GRANT PARDON WOULD BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES WHICH MUST GUIDE ALL STATES, AND WOULD BE WELCOMED BY INTERNATIONAL OPINION."

STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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